EXHIBIT 16

Redacted Excerpts from Deposition of Kyle Kingsbury

Page 1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA Cung Le, Nathan Quarry, Jon Fitch, Brandon Vera, Luis Javier) Vazquez, and Kyle Kingsbury on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, Plaintiffs,) Case No. 2:15-cv-) 01045-RFB-(PAL)

DEPOSITION OF KYLE KINGSBURY

VS.

Zuffa, LLC, d/b/a Ultimate Fighting Championship and UFC,

Defendants.

Taken at the Offices of Boies, Schiller & Flexner 300 South 4th Street, Suite 800 Las Vegas, Nevada

> On Friday, February 17, 2017 At 9:19 a.m.

Reported by: Jane V. Efaw, CCR #601, RPR



Page 46 Page 48 1 to my final fight in King of the Cage and was just 1 Q. So after your last fight in King of the 2 waiting to finish my contract with them. I'm not 2 Cage, did King of the Cage try and exercise its 3 3 sure at which point. option for another year? 4 Q. But it was sometime before your final fight 4 MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form to the 5 with King of the Cage? 5 extent it calls for a legal conclusion. 6 A. I believe so. THE WITNESS: I believe that King of the 6 Q. Did you decide to hire a new manager at that 7 7 Cage tried to exercise the option for a second year 8 8 because my manager at that time, I had a phone call point? 9 9 A. I decided to hire a new manager after I with him and let him know that I would not be suffered my first loss against Tony Lopez, which is 10 10 re-signing with them and that I was going to move to my final fight in King of the Cage. 11 California to train at AKA and have a new management 11 12 12 O. And who was that manager? company represent me. 13 A. The manager was Crazy Bob Cook and DeWayne 13 Obviously, that didn't sit well with him. 14 Zinkin from Zinkin Entertainment. 14 And I believe they called Bob Cook at some point Q. And how did you meet them? 15 15 threatening that they still had me under contract and 16 A. I grew up in San Jose, California, and 16 that they wouldn't allow me to work with someone 17 around that area and was familiar with American 17 else. 18 Kickboxing Academy and the level of fighters that 18 And if I recall correctly, DeWayne Zinkin 19 19 had his lawyers look at their contract, and they they had. 20 When I was 17, a friend of mine and I 20 determined that they did not have that right and that 21 decided to go train at American Kickboxing Academy 21 there was a conflict with having my manager who got 22 briefly. We played football and wrestled together, 22 me this contract be an employee of King of the Cage. 23 but we didn't do a spring sport. 23 BY MR. WIDNELL: 24 So to stay in shape and to learn new things 24 Q. Was there any litigation related to that? 25 that would be applicable to football and wrestling, 25 A. They had threatened to take us to court and Page 47 Page 49 1 we decided to take mixed martial arts with Frank 1 have litigation, and that never came to fruition. 2 2 Shamrock and Crazy Bob Cook at American Kickboxing Q. Was there ever any other litigation between 3 3 either King of the Cage and you or between you and Q. Was your friend in -- did he also become an 4 your prior manager? 4 5 5 MMA fighter? MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection. Compound. 6 6 A. Yes. His name was Daniel Puder. And he THE WITNESS: No, not to my knowledge, there 7 was no litigation. 7 fought for Strikeforce. And he ended up becoming a 8 8 pro wrestler. He won the million-dollar Tough Enough BY MR. WIDNELL: 9 9 for WWE. Q. If you go back to Exhibit 81 and look at the 10 Q. So when did you join AKA as an MMA fighter? 10 second page, Item 7. Could you read that? 11 A. I joined AKA as an MMA fighter after my loss 11 A. "If Kyle should become injured and cannot with Tony Lopez. I moved back to California, which compete in scheduled fights, King of the Cage will 12 12 13 is where I'm from. My family's there. And started have the option to extend the term of the contract so 13 14 training at American Kickboxing Academy. 14 that Kyle may fulfill his time commitment." 15 Q. And it's that same time period that you also 15 Q. What's your understanding of what that term 16 retained Bob Cook and DeWayne Zinkin? 16 meant? 17 17 A. That is correct. A. This term, I believe, is King of the Cage's 18 Q. And did one of them handle most of your 18 ability to extend my contract during an injury. 19 matters? 19 Q. Did that provision ever come into play?



20

21

22

23

24

25

A. That provision --

BY MR. WIDNELL:

extent it calls for a legal conclusion.

20

21

22

23

24

25

regularly.

A. Crazy Bob Cook was the -- between the two of

them, the person that I spoke with the most. DeWayne

is a few hours away. And Bob trained and managed the

Zinkin had his offices in Fresno, California, which

guys and was at American Kickboxing Academy

MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to form to the

Q. Let me ask it slightly differently. Maybe

it's easier. Were you ever injured during your time

Page 50 Page 52

1 fighting for King of the Cage?

- A. I was not injured during my time fighting for King of the Cage.
- Q. So if I'm reading this correctly, it looks like the next thing that happened was that you ended up becoming a contestant on the Ultimate Fighter; is that correct?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. Can you tell me how that came to pass?
- A. After training at American Kickboxing Academy, I had fought as a heavyweight in all my previous matches. And a couple of my teammates, Bobby Southworth, who had fought as a heavyweight prior and was the current light heavyweight for Strikeforce, they mentioned that they think I should try to drop the weight. Instead of trying to gain weight, I should try to lean out as much as I can and be a bigger fighter at the 205 weight class. And I took that into consideration but still liked not having to cut weight.

But it was when Bob Cook mentioned to me there was an opportunity to be on the Ultimate Fighter Season 8, which had split between lightweights 155 class and light heavyweights 205 class.

Page 51

And then if I was able to drop my weight that I could potentially be on that show. And that that could get my foot in the door for fighting at the highest level in the UFC.

- Q. So you agreed to apply; is that right?
- A. Yeah. Bob Cook and I sent in a video to them. They had already -- Bob had a history working with the UFC. Obviously, they already had fighters on our team that were in the UFC. But they also had fighters that had gone through the Ultimate Fighter as a pathway to make it into the UFC.
- Q. You say "as a pathway to make it into the UFC." Were you focused at that point on trying to become a UFC fighter?
- A. I think the goal of every fighter is to fight at the highest level and to become champion one day. And if you're trying to fight, it doesn't matter if you're the champion, you know, big fish in a small pond. You could be the best of a small community. But really to test yourself and to know that you're the best in the world, that takes becoming champion of the UFC.
- Q. At the time, did you think it was competitive to get a spot on the Ultimate Fighter? MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form.

BY MR. WIDNELL:

- Q. Let me ask this a little differently. Did you feel like you had to compete with a lot of other people to get that spot on the Ultimate Fighter?
- A. In my opinion, the Ultimate Fighter by Season 8 time was wildly successful in that a lot of people watched the show. You had to have certain credentials. You had to have displayed yourself in a manner that showed that you had real talent or at least the possibility of growing into that talent.

And so they had to see something in you in order to bring you on that show. And it was hard -- it was quite competitive to get on the show.

Q. So you'd say there were a lot of other fighters who wanted to have the spot that you got; is that accurate?

MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form. THE WITNESS: I think that's a fair statement.

BY MR. WIDNELL:

Q. Now, Mr. Fitch in his deposition -- I can't recall if this was in the morning and you would have heard it or not. But at some point during his deposition, he said that he thought that at the time that he applied, the people who made it onto the

Page 53

Ultimate Fighter were all elite fighters.

But I think he said that later seasons that may not have been the case. Do you agree with that statement?

MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form to the extent it calls for a legal conclusion and mischaracterizes the prior witness' testimony. You can answer.

THE WITNESS: I think if I understand that question correctly, Jon was stating that on the Ultimate Fighter Season 1, because it was the first one, there was a wealth of talent on that season and that a lot of the fighters who fought on Ultimate Fighter Season 1 eventually went on to have careers in the UFC.

That wasn't the case for every Ultimate Fighter. There's been various seasons where only a couple guys or women were kept after the show had ended as opposed to the majority of them from Ultimate Fighter Season 1.

On the Ultimate Fighter Season 8, we were really a standout at that point because quite a few of the fighters were kept from Ultimate Fighter Season 8, which hadn't been the case in between Season 1 and Season 8.



Page 54 Page 56 1 BY MR. WIDNELL: 1 sound like some are and some aren't. 2 2 Q. So would you say that all of the contestants If you were going to try and identify or 3 3 for Season 8 were elite fighters? come up with an easy explanation for which are the 4 4 MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form to the most likely elite fighters of the season, how would 5 extent it calls for a legal conclusion. 5 you do that? 6 6 THE WITNESS: I'm not saying that at all. MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form to 7 In fact, one of the ways that they would orchestrate 7 the extent it calls for a legal conclusion and 8 the show is they would bring on some really talented 8 speculation. 9 9 fighters, and they would bring on some guys who had THE WITNESS: In my opinion, I think the 10 10 bare minimal experience, sometimes with no fights or guys who were kept under contract -- or were given a a 1-and-0 record or a 1-and-1 record. 11 11 contract to fight in the UFC after the Ultimate 12 Fighter 8 had finished defined them as elite. They And it is my understanding that they wanted 12 that dynamic for the people who made it into the 13 13 had made it to the highest level if they were 14 house so that they would still have exciting fights, 14 fighting against the best guys, and they had made it 15 meaning "exciting" they would still see big knockouts 15 to the highest level of the sport. 16 and things like that as opposed to every fight going 16 BY MR. WIDNELL: 17 to a decision. 17 Q. So if you got a contract at the end, that 18 18 really is the best indicator that you actually are an So when you compete at the highest level, 19 19 elite fighter among the members of the Ultimate it's not always guaranteed that you'll have a 20 knockout or an exciting fight for the fans. I think 20 Fighter season; is that accurate? 21 Jon Fitch has demonstrated that throughout his career 21 MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form to 22 and was punished for it, winning a lot by decision 22 the extent it calls for a legal conclusion. 23 and not fighting the way the UFC would have wanted 23 THE WITNESS: In my opinion, I believe there 24 24 are a number of factors that would go into making him to. Dana White specifically. 25 So Ultimate Fighter Season 8 did have quite 25 somebody an elite fighter. But probably the most Page 57 Page 55 1 1 a wide-ranging gap of fighters who were extremely important, in my opinion, would be to fight in the 2 2 talented and had great records and fighters that had UFC. 3 3 minimal experience. BY MR. WIDNELL: 4 4 BY MR. WIDNELL: Q. Can you be an elite fighter if you don't 5 5 Q. Were you an elite fighter at the point that fight in the UFC? 6 6 you were participating in Season 8? MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form to 7 7 MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form. the extent it calls for a legal conclusion. 8 8 THE WITNESS: I think there have been some Calls for a legal conclusion. 9 9 THE WITNESS: I believed in myself and my cases in the past where there were elite-level 10 chances of winning the Ultimate Fighter Season 8. I 10 fighters who did not fight in the UFC. 11 did not believe I was an elite fighter until I've 11 BY MR. WIDNELL: 12 12 made it into the UFC. Q. Okay. Thanks. Could you just tell me how 13 BY MR. WIDNELL: 13 it comes to pass that if you are a contestant on the 14 Q. Would you say that only the contestants on 14 Ultimate Fighter, whether or not you ultimately 15 the Ultimate Fighter who ultimately made it into the 15 become a fighter in the UFC? Do you know how that UFC were elite fighters? 16 process works? 16 17 17 MR. DELL'ANGELO: Objection to the form to MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form. 18 the extent it calls for a legal conclusion. 18 Foundation. Calls for speculation.



19

20

21

22

23

24

25

19

20

21

22

23

24 25 THE WITNESS: I would say that if you've

made it into the UFC, you could consider yourself an

Q. Okay. But what I'm really trying to figure

out is if you're selected for the Ultimate Fighter,

does that also mean you're an elite fighter? And it

elite-level fighter, in my opinion.

BY MR. WIDNELL:

THE WITNESS: I don't know for sure what the

criteria is to make it into the UFC or why they pick

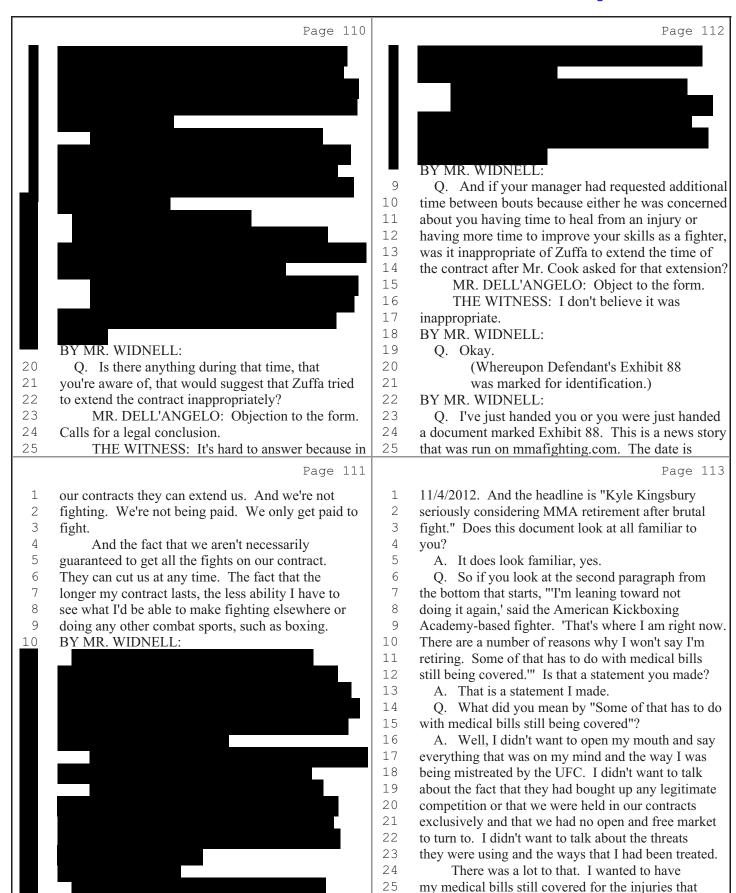
some form of notoriety. You would have to be

somebody who's marketable and likable or at least

But in my opinion, you would have to have

the certain people that they do.

have the potential for that.



Page 114

I had. I didn't want them to say, Screw you. You're on your own. You're just retired, or you talked bad about us and, no, we're not going to take care of you anymore, in that respect concerning my medical bills.

At this point in my career, I was pretty upset by the matchmaking, being forced to take certain fights, and I wasn't happy. But I didn't want to speak badly about the UFC at that time because I was still under contract and because I wanted them to take care of my medical bills.

- Q. And were they taking care of your medical bills?
- A. They took care of my medical bills for the fights. And they had injury insurance, which I paid a \$1500 deductible to have my shoulder healed.
- Q. And I think you also talked about the orbital bone fracture. Was that covered by --
- A. That was covered by Zuffa. That happened in a fight, yes. They covered everything that happened in fights.
 - Q. But you did say, "I'm leaning toward not doing it again"; is that right?
 - A. I was leaning towards not doing it again, but I wanted to leave the door open in case I got that itch again. And, again, I restate here, "I

Page 115

- could wake up a month or two from now and be as hungry as I've ever been and think I shouldn't have opened my mouth a month ago," referring to speaking the truth about what was going on in the UFC with buyouts, exclusive contracts and threats exclusive contracts that had been made to me among other fighters. And that would pretty much be the end of my career if I had done so. So I said there's no finite decision.
- Q. So at this time, had you made comments about those concerns publicly?
- A. I had not made public -- not to my knowledge at that time had I made any public statements in terms of my dissatisfaction with the UFC. I had seen firsthand with teammates Jon Fitch and Josh Koscheck what that had done to their careers, and I did not want to go that route if I was going to continue to fight for them.
- Q. Okay. Were you under the impression that UFC was punishing you at that time?
- A. Yes. In fact, there were articles written that -- one article stated, "I don't know what Kingsbury has done to piss off Joe Silva, but it is clear and obvious." Or "Kingsbury gets thrown to the wolves. What did he do to piss Jon Silva off?"

Page 116

- Q. And how is it clear and obvious that you were being punished?
- A. Well, if you go through my fight history, you can see right before my four-fight losing streak, I was on a four-fight winning streak with two fight of the nights and a 21-second knockout.

A lot of that competition was not well known. And after I received my first orbital blowout in the fight of the night victory against Fabio Maldonado, I spoke with my coaches and management. And we realized that the competition in the UFC at the highest level is so tough that you can be hurt and have to take time off for who knows how long. And that it was a detriment to fight people that were that good but not well known.

So we had asked Joe Silva after the Fabio Maldonado fight. I remember specifically walking on eggshells in the statement. And I said, "I'm very grateful with the matchups that you have given me in the past. And I'm happy fighting the guys you put in front of me. But I would like to fight a bigger named opponent in my next fight because the level of competition is so high that if I lose to an unnamed guy, it would hurt me. As opposed to if I was to fight a big name opponent, at least people would know

Page 117

who that person is if I was to lose. And you could lose any fight. It could happen on any day. So I just wanted to fight named opponents.

And in the very next fight they put me against Stephan Bonnar. Not an opponent I would have wanted. But because we had asked for a named opponent, I took the fight anyways.

At that time I was a blue belt in Jiu-Jitsu. Stephan Bonnar was a black belt. So there was a huge discrepancy and one of his weaknesses. And the fight went his direction because of that.

I wasn't too upset at that point. It's really the fights that came after that that really made me believe that I was being punished. Glover Teixeira I knew very well. I had trained with his coaches and teammates, Chuck Liddell and Coach John Hackleman down at The Pit.

Glover Teixeira was a close friend and training partner of Chuck Liddell's. Over the years they said he could be champ. He was one of the best in the world. And Joe Silva wanted me to fight him on the undercard in Glover's first fight in the UFC.

And that is exactly the kind of thing that hurts fighters. Nobody knew who he was. He was extremely talented. It was a lose-lose. If I beat



Page 118

him, I'm supposed to beat him. If I don't beat him, I just got my ass kicked by a guy that nobody knows.

On top of that, being put on the undercard, there was a great deal less in sponsorship money because I wasn't guaranteed to be on TV.

They also rushed me to the cage in that fight without playing my entrance music. It was the only fight they did this. Yet they allowed Glover to walk out with his entrance music. They said it was a TV time thing.

Yet they didn't account for the 30 seconds it would take for me to walk to the cage. So UFC personnel was screaming at me to run to the cage in an effort to rattle me.

After that fight against Jimi Manuwa, I had another unknown opponent in his first fight in the UFC. I had to fly all the way to England for it. It was on the undercard, and it was against a guy who at the time was 11 and 0, no losses, and not a single opponent had made it out of the first round with him. So he was highly decorated and not known. Again, as stated, a lose-lose for me.

And then I had received the damage that I did in that fight. And with my second orbital blowout on the same side, I was really concerned for

Page 119

my high health fracturing the eyebrow as well and was just considering is it worth it? I can't get out of my contract. There's nowhere else to go at this point. Strikeforce didn't exist anymore. Pride didn't exist anymore. And I had no way of saying no.

When I got the fight with Glover Teixeira, that was the only time that I had asked to not fight a certain fighter because I knew how good he was and I knew that he was an unknown.

And I spoke to Joe Silva face-to-face in Tokyo, Japan, at one of the events. He had overheard me complaining to one of the fans about my next opponent. He said, "Kyle, what's the problem?"

And I said, "Joe, I'm glad you're here. The problem is that nobody knows who Glover is, and he could easily be the UFC champ. He could be the champion of our division. I know how good he is. I've trained with his coaches. The coaches know me well. They know my style. And I would be happy taking on anyone else."

And then he said to me the usual tag line, "You've got to take the fight with Glover. If you don't like this fight, you're not going to like the next one."

And I said, "I would take on Jon Jones or

Page 120

Shogun Rua, legends of the sport, before I'd want to
 take on Glover Teixeira because at least people knew
 who they were. And he told me, "You've got to take
 the fight anyways."

Q. Who do you think should have fought Glover Teixeira?

A. It would be speculation on my part to say who should have fought Glover Teixeira. But if it's an entry level fight in the UFC, he should have fought somebody else that maybe had one fight in the UFC.

Yeah, in my opinion, he should have fought somebody else that was new to the UFC. Because even when they offered him to fight Shogun Rua after beating me, Shogun turned down that fight. And as a former champion, he had a little bit more power than I did.

And Dana White went on to barbecue Shogun Rua saying that he was a pussy for not wanting to take the fight and that he was going to take the fight anyways, belittling Shogun and taking away from his notoriety.

Q. If you turn to the second page of Exhibit 88. Do you see the sentence, "'They haven't cut me, and I'm very grateful for that,' he said.

Page 121

- 'If I decide to stick around, it will be in the UFC'"?
- A. Yes, I see that statement.
 - Q. Did you say that?
 - A. I did say that statement.
- Q. Okay. If you'd turn to the third page. Do you see the sentence that says, "I made the decision to go to MMA for as long as it may last and go back after to being a fireman again"?
- 10 A. Yeah, I see that statement.
 - Q. Did you make that statement?
 - A. I did make that statement.
 - Q. What did you mean by that?
 - A. When I first got the contract to fight in King of the Cage, I was living in Arizona. And I had a friend who was a firefighter/paramedic for Phoenix Fire. He was putting me through the process to become a firefighter in Arizona. I thought of that as a great career.

And basically at the time, I had passed my first interview with Phoenix Fire and was waiting to do -- I was prepping for my second interview to get in. And we got the contract to fight in King of the Cage. And my friend told me, "Hey, fighting doesn't last long. Fire fighting will always be here. You



	Page 242		Page 244
1	the question.	1	CERTIFICATE OF DEPONENT
2	THE WITNESS: Then I would say the	2	PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON
3	attorney/client privilege applies, yes.	3	
4	BY MR. WIDNELL:	4	
5	Q. I think just recently you said that you	5 6	
6	believe there are additional examples. Is that	7	
7	correct?	8	
8	A. That is correct.	9	
9	Q. But you don't recall them now; is that	10	
10	correct?	11	
11	A. That is correct.	12	
12	Q. But you might recall them in the future; is	13	
13	that correct?	14 15	* * * * *
14	A. That is correct.	16	* * * *
15	Q. Okay. Are there any other examples of Zuffa	17	I, KYLE KINGSBURY, deponent herein, do
16	threatening or punishing fighters that you are aware		hereby certify and declare the within and foregoing
17	of?	18	transcription to be my deposition in said action;
18	MR. DELL'ANGELO: Object to the form.		that I have read, corrected and do hereby affix my
19	THE WITNESS: As I stated earlier, I'm aware	19	signature to said deposition.
20	of other examples of the way the UFC threatened to	20	
21	punish fighters, but I don't recall any at this time.	21 22	
22	MR. WIDNELL: All right. I think I'm	22	KYLE KINGSBURY, Deponent
23	finished with my initial questions. Do you have any	23	KTEE KIIVOSBOKT, Deponent
24	questions you want to conduct?	24	
25	MR. DELL'ANGELO: Let's go off the record	25	
	Page 243		Page 245
1	real quick.	1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now going off the	2	STATE OF NEVADA)
3	record. The time is approximately 4:35 p.m.	_) SS:
4	(A brief recess was taken.)	3 4	COUNTY OF CLARK) I, Jane V. Efaw, CCR No. 601, do hereby certify:
5	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now back on the	5	That I reported the taking of the deposition of
6	record. The time is approximately 4:30 p.m.	6	the witness, KYLE KINGSBURY, at the time and place
7	MR. DELL'ANGELO: Plaintiffs have no	7	aforesaid;
8	questions at this time. We'll read and sign.	8	That prior to being examined, the witness was by
9	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're done?	9	me duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole
10	MR. WIDNELL: We're done.	10	truth, and nothing but the truth;
11	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This concludes the video	11	That I thereafter transcribed my shorthand notes
12	deposition of Kyle Kingsbury. We are going off the	12	into typewriting and that the typewritten transcript
13	record. The time is approximately 4:40 p.m.	13	of said deposition is a complete, true and accurate
14	(Thereupon the taking of the	14 15	transcription of said shorthand notes taken down at said time, and that a request has been made to review
15 16	deposition was concluded at	16	the transcript.
16 17	4:40 p.m.) * * * * *	17	I further certify that I am not a relative or
18		18	employee of counsel of any party involved in said
18 19		19	action, nor a relative or employee of the parties
20		20	involved in said action, nor a person financially
20 21		21	interested in the action.
22		22	Dated at Las Vegas, Nevada, this day of
23		23	, 2017.
24		24	
25		25	Jane V. Efaw. CCR #601